

DUCHESS TALKS FOR CHARITY

CENTRE OF INTEREST AT THE PLAYGROUND DINNER.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward the Guest of Honor and Miss Jane Addams a Speaker—The Duchess Urges Personal Cooperation—A Dinner of Contrasting Guests.

The Duchess of Marlborough wore a light blue satin princess, embroidered with gold and further ornamented with silver tinsel draped from the shoulders. A diamond crescent flashed in her hair. Around her throat was a diamond dog collar and her famous rope of pearls. Long white kid gloves made up all the rest of her costume that a man might remember.

It is important that these details be placed at the beginning of this story, because the clothes were a matter of the keenest interest to 300 or 400 women who attended the first annual dinner of the Playground Association of America, given at the Waldorf-Astoria last night in honor of Mrs. Humphrey Ward. Not only were the tables crowded but the porters of the hotel bent their backs and struggled heroically to supply the demand for chairs that came from scores of more.

The principal speakers at the banquet were three women—Mrs. Humphrey Ward, the guest of honor, the Duchess of Marlborough and Jane Addams, the social settlement worker of Chicago. Mrs. Ward and Miss Addams, from long experience as platform speakers, acquitted themselves with the certainty and ease of veteran after dinner orators, while the Duchess, though a trifle nervous from less practice at the game, got through her address in a manner that won her plenty of applause.

The Duchess sat at the left of Richard Watson Gilder, who was toastmaster; Mrs. Ward at his right. Further along to the left were Miss Addams, Robert W. de Forest, Dr. Seth Thayer Stewart, Miss Pauline Robinson, Robert Garrett, Spencer Trask and Mrs. Robert W. de Forest. On the right of the toastmaster were Col. George Harvey, Mr. Humphrey Ward, Jacob Rias, Mrs. Luther Gulick, Supt. Maxwell of the Public Schools, and Cuno H. Rudolph.

At a table near the door the Duchess's mother, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, and O. H. P. Belmont, James Speyer and Mrs. Speyer, William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Mrs. Vanderbilt and Mr. and Mrs. Egerton L. Winthrop, Jr. At other tables were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pulitzer, Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin Riggs, Mrs. Robert C. Ogden, Justice Norman Dike, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Miss Ida M. Tarbell, Harold G. Villard, J. Kennedy Tod, Mr. and Mrs. A. Barton Hepburn, John D. Crimmins, Mrs. Albert Gould Jennings, the Rev. Edward Judson, Ray Stannard Baker, Beatrice Fairfax, Arthur Brisbane, Henry Phillips and John W. Glens.

The big banquet room of the Waldorf, blazed with diamonds, and perhaps that was the reason that five abashed sleuths from Headquarters unsuccessfully disguised in evening clothes prowled suspiciously about. But it was a dinner where extremes of costumes obtained. Settlement workers in the plainest of black gowns, women who work every day among the children of the East Side, touched elbows with neighbors in the finest of clothes.

Dr. Luther H. Gulick introduced Richard Watson Gilder, who explained briefly what the dinner celebrated, and then Mr. Gilder introduced the Duchess of Marlborough as "a new recruit, her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough. I ask you to greet her."

The Duchess, who had been fingering her typewritten manuscript and smiling occasionally toward her relatives at another table, got briskly to her feet and leaned a little forward with her finger tips on the table edge, while the applause rang enthusiastically. She started to speak in a high, clear voice which carried easily to the furthest corners of the big room, and it is probable that without the advantage of the ropes of pearls and the sparkling crescent in her dark hair she would have held the attention of the banquet.

She talked without gesturing, holding a few pages of manuscript in her right hand, although seldom using the manuscript. Once she faltered, just for a moment, but she picked herself up as neatly as an old hand, glanced quickly at the manuscript and then finished her speech from memory. Toward the close her face, which was pale at the beginning, flushed with color. The Duchess said:

Having had the opportunity of coming into touch with the public work being done by women in England, I hoped I might be able to sound a note of encouragement to my own countrywomen who are devoting their lives to bettering the social conditions of the poor in this city. In England, as you know, the influence of women has permeated every field of human endeavor, political and philanthropic, no less than social and artistic. The results appear in the really splendid achievements of associations formed to guard and help girls who fall in factories and shops; to provide employment for the wives of convicted criminals; to care for the fatherless and orphaned, and to make playgrounds for little children. And here I can mention a private association. It is for the owners of land near the village school to lend or give the school a number of acres where the children have their own plots and are taught gardening under school supervision. I can personally testify to the success of this undertaking, not only for the children are concerned, but also as to the commendation of the school board inspectors.

It does not suffice to give money alone. Personal direction is exacted and freely given, and it is this expression of human sympathy that knits closely together the widely varying elements of a community.

From the earliest childhood, English women are made to feel the obligations of individual responsibility, and society itself demands adequate fulfillment. It is this sense of obligation that I venture to think we American women should foster and develop. Here there are of course, no customary obligations. But does not the mere privilege of citizenship in a republic such as this, involve personal responsibility and place it on a far higher plane? That every citizen owes it to the mother State in such ratio as his intelligence and his capacity to help certify a very old maxim, but one not always brought into the sphere of enterprise. Is it not possible for the women citizens of this great republic to recognize that personal obligation on its ethical basis and to turn it to account in practical work?

The amelioration of the social and educational conditions under which the children of the big cities are being brought up is

Continued on Third Page.

CROKER HAD TO SCRAMBLE.

Stuck to Burning Ferryboat Until It Sank in Its Slip.

Chief Croker came near getting his feet wet and maybe something worse at the foot of a fire last night in the ferryboat Union, which plies between Catharine street, Manhattan, and Main street, Brooklyn. The boat had to be scuttled to save it, and Croker stayed aboard until it was sinking.

Deputy Chief Guerin had hustled the firemen of the Union when the scuttling began and he was standing on the bridge of the ferry structure when a lone man came running through the driveway on the boat.

"What the— Say, you'd better hurry," yelled Guerin. The man was Croker, who had been exploring the Union to see that nobody had been left.

The boat already had settled so far that he couldn't climb ashore by the regular route. He hustled up the ladder to the roof and clambered thence to the ferry rack at the side of the boat just as the old sidewheeler sank.

The boats on this line lay off for the night at 9 o'clock. The Union had tied up as usual and the fire had been drawn. James Gifford, the ferry master, and the crew were in the runway on the dock when about half an hour after trying up Gifford saw a flicker of flame back in the boat.

He yelled "Fire!" and sent a man to turn in an alarm. Then the crew ran the boat into the slip. The fire apparently had spread from some oily waste in the engine room which had taken fire from hot coals among the ashes. Gifford and the crew fought with a line of buckets, but the flames crackled up rapidly and had sent a roaring pillar up through the roof by the time Chief Croker got there with the land apparatus.

The fireboat William L. Strong drew in close and put a powerful stream into the boat. Between this and the land streams the fire apparently was got under control, but it kept burning below until the boat had to be scuttled.

The Union was an old style wooden sidewheeler. When she was built thirty years ago she cost \$20,000. Supt. Martin guessed that it would cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000 to restore her for service.

HE WAS A FAIRBANKS MAN.

Was Victor of Oklahoma, Until He Got a Job—Now He's for Taft.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The Senate confirmed to-day the nomination of Samuel Grant Victor to be Marshal for the eastern district of Oklahoma. Victor was nominated to succeed Grove A. Porter, whose nomination was withdrawn by the President after the Senate committee had reported adversely.

When Victor's nomination was reported to the Senate there was a familiar ring about the name. Senators Foraker and Hemenway and they recalled that Victor had been the Fairbanks manager in Oklahoma, and had been making a vigorous fight against the Administration up to a comparatively recent time.

An investigation developed the fact that after coming on to Washington at the invitation of Frank H. Hitchcock and having an interview Mr. Victor suddenly lost interest in the Vice-President's boom and soon afterward his nomination was sent in for the Marshalship.

When confronted by the Fairbanks managers, Mr. Victor admitted that he had seen the light and was a Taft man. He admitted also that he was a poor man and needed the salary. Mr. Hemenway asked that the nomination be recommended to the Judiciary Committee and Senator Foraker joined in the request.

Victor came on to Washington and cleared up the mystery in a manner that induced the Fairbanks and Foraker people to withhold their further opposition and to-day he was confirmed without delay.

UNIVERSITIES FOR IRELAND.

Government Proposes Non-Sectarian Scheme of Higher Education—All Approve.

Special Cable Dispatch to Tax Sun.

LONDON, March 31.—In the House of Commons to-day Augustine Birrell, Secretary for Ireland, in introducing the new universities bill, said that it was proposed to enact that the King should found by charter two new universities in Ireland, one at Dublin and the other at Belfast.

The university at Belfast would have but one college, the present Queen's college. The Dublin university would have three constituent colleges, those of Cork, Galway and Dublin. No religious tests would be allowed in the new universities. Both would be governed academically by their respective senates.

Secretary Birrell went on to say that \$100,000 from the Irish church fund would be divided between the two universities. The Crown would have a perpetual right to nominate some members of the senates, which would number thirty-five members for Belfast and thirty-six for Dublin. Catholic and Protestant Bishops and laymen would take part in the management.

The senates would have power to appoint and dismiss professors. The Crown would nominate a board of visitors. The senates would have power to affiliate such institutions as might come up to a certain standard, doubtless Maynooth and McGee colleges.

The bill gives \$200,000 from the Exchequer, in addition to the \$100,000 from the Irish church fund. The sum of \$300,000 will be specially granted to Dublin and \$300,000 to Belfast.

Mr. Balfour, the leader of the Opposition, expressed his agreement with the main proposals of the bill, and John Dillon, Nationalist, thanked him for his cordial speech. Mr. Dillon said he had no doubt that the bill would be accepted by Roman Catholics.

The bill passed the first reading by a vote of 307 to 24.

PINCHED THE RUNAWAY'S NOSE.

Policeman Stops Touring Store Horse in Front of a Polling Place.

Policeman Wegge of the Charles street station stopped a runaway horse attached to a department store delivery wagon in front of the polling place at 41 Christopher street last night.

Wegge attempted to climb over the shafts, but was thrown. He got up with a run and a jump landed on the wagon. From there he crawled over the horse's back and stopped it by pinching its nose, shutting off its wind.

The runaway started from Twelfth street and Sixth avenue, where Louis Herkibacher's driver was thrown to the pavement. In Greenwich avenue the horse collided with Henry Heffer of 95 Sixth avenue, who was trying to stop it. Heffer got a bad cut on the knee.

VENEZUELA TRADE EMBARGO

ROOSEVELT SENDS CASE TO SENATE AS PRELIMINARY STEP.

Diplomatic Correspondence Since 1900 Shows That Castro Seized Vested Interests and Repeatedly Refused to Arbitrate—Now We Prepare to Coerce.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate to-day a mass of correspondence and documentary evidence relating to the pending claims of the United States against Venezuela. A meeting of the Committee on Foreign Relations will be held to-morrow and it is expected that consideration will be given to the matter.

It is the purpose of the Administration supporters in the Senate to press for the adoption of a joint resolution granting authority to the President to place an additional duty on Venezuelan products and to close American ports to Venezuelan goods if the additional duty is not effective in its intent to compel Venezuela to agree to arbitrate the pending claims.

The five cases to which the documents relate are those of the Orinoco Steamship, the Orinoco Corporation, Albert F. Jaurett, the New York and Bermuda Company and the United States and Venezuela Company. The most important of these is the claim of the New York and Bermuda Company, a subordinate concern of the American Asphalt Company, and the bulk of the correspondence relates to its difficulties with the Venezuelan Government, which dispossessed it of its holdings.

The diplomatic correspondence relating to the New York and Bermuda Company's case was begun back in 1900. On December 26 of that year Francis B. Loomis, then Minister to Venezuela, was telegraphing Secretary of State Hay that a gunboat was necessary to protect the company's property. "No reasonable doubt," he called, "of conspiracy here to deprive this company of lake," meaning the asphalt lake which the company then held.

It seems to be a clear case of looting and nullifying vested interests," said Mr. Loomis, and he added, "appearance of imposing naval force will doubtless bring Venezuelan Government to reason."

Secretary Hay telegraphed Mr. Loomis to "urgently request," but subsequently to "peremptorily demand" a stay of the proceedings of the Venezuelan Government against the asphalt company until the matter could be investigated. Venezuela refused to comply. A few weeks later Mr. Loomis wrote to Mr. Hay that the opposition to the company was "because its property holdings here suggest large possibilities for profit to certain adventurers and not overscrupulous spirits who are always on the alert for plunder."

A little later Mr. Loomis informed the State Department that he thought the departure of the cruisers Hartford and Buffalo at the moment he presented Mr. Hay's peremptory demand was unfortunate. There was much correspondence at that time, Venezuela insisting that the Constitution of the republic provided for an adjustment of the case through the courts. "The talk about the Constitution is all bosh," said Mr. Loomis. "It is used as a convenience."

The asphalt lake was seized and the Venezuelan courts decided against the company. President Castro placed a receiver in charge.

In October, 1905, three months after Mr. Root became Secretary of State, Mr. Root undertook to reopen the case, which had been closed since Venezuela refused to regard it as a diplomatic matter. He sent a telegram to Mr. Russell, then, as now, United States Minister at Caracas, containing instructions to adopt a friendly and conciliatory attitude.

"Our desire for the friendship and kindly feeling of Venezuela is sincere and strong," he said. "We have taken so much trouble and devoted so much effort as a friend to Venezuela, especially under the Administrations of President Cleveland and President Roosevelt, that we are very reluctant to yield to the idea that any conditions between us cannot be settled through diplomatic channels. You will confer with the Government in this spirit. Ascertain if they will not meet us half way in a friendly and practical effort to reach substantial justice."

Negotiations between President Castro and the New York and Bermuda Company were begun as a result of this effort, but did not result satisfactorily.

Subsequently Mr. Root proposed arbitration of the Bermuda and other claims, but Venezuela declined. Then Mr. Root proposed that each claim be arbitrated separately. On March 3, 1908, Mr. Root received a telegram from Minister Russell in which he said that "Venezuela refrains from considering for the present the question of arbitration, because I have not refuted the arguments in notes of July 9 and September 20, in which notes Venezuela plainly stated grounds for refusing to arbitrate."

This information was conveyed to Mr. Russell by the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs who said in a note: "As the case referred cannot be considered as being comprised among those which call for diplomatic action, the Government of Venezuela would view it with satisfaction if the Government of the United States would consider this question as closed, the parties interested always having the right of recourse to the tribunals of justice of the republic should they deem fit."

This was a polite refusal of the efforts of the United States to obtain arbitration and ended the correspondence between the two Governments.

The correspondence shows that this Government insisted upon a revision of the arbitration award in the case of the Orinoco Steamship Company, but Venezuela refused.

One of the documents is a long report made by W. J. Calhoun, who was sent to Venezuela as a special commissioner to investigate the New York and Bermuda case.

KILLS MAN WHO FIGHTS FOR HER.

Girl Who Was the Stake in a Card Game Charged With Murder.

COLUMBIA, Miss., March 31.—Eunice Spencer, a girl of 20, is under arrest charged with murdering Charles Wesley in her home here yesterday. It is said that Miss Spencer was the stake in a card game in which Wesley and P. F. Coombs were the players. Each played won two games, and in the deciding game, with one point to go out, Coombs accused Wesley of cheating.

In the fight which followed Wesley had Coombs on the face with a knife at his throat. At that moment Miss Spencer is said to have seized a rifle and shot Wesley.

TAFT DELEGATES FROM SOUTH

Won't Be Seated, the "Albion" Figure, If National Committee Has the Say.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The choice bit of political gossip in Washington to-day is that the "Albion," meaning the candidates for the Republican Presidential nomination other than Secretary Taft, have made a poll of the Republican national committee which demonstrated that a majority of the committee is opposed to seating delegates from the South elected by conventions in which negroes were not permitted to participate.

Most of the Taft delegates from the South were chosen by Lily White conventions. The negro party leaders are opposed to Taft, and if they had been allowed to attend the conventions arranged by the Taft wing the Secretary of War would not have been in it.

According to statements made to-night there is a majority of twelve in the national committee against seating delegates elected by conventions from which negroes were excluded.

WADSWORTH DOWNS PORTER.

With John A. Merritt He Gets Control of the Thirty-fourth District.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., March 31.—The Merritt-Wadsworth faction of the Republican party got control of the Thirty-fourth Congress district to-day, defeating Congressman Peter A. Porter and Superintendent of Public Works Frederick H. Stevens of Wyoming.

Porter captured the rural towns, but Merritt swept the city of Lockport and broke even in North Tonawanda, giving him control of the First Assembly district of Niagara. The second district will be with him.

The Merritt-Wadsworth faction captured seven of the ten towns in Orleans, thereby controlling the Congress district. This means that Porter will not receive a renomination this fall. The Merritt-Wadsworth forces will have Orleans, Genesee, Livingston and Niagara counties, with twenty-eight delegates, to seven from Wyoming, Stevens's home, for seven. John A. Merritt will be reelected State committeeman.

EVANS LEAVES THE FLEET.

To Get Treatment for Rheumatism Ashore and Resume Command—Ship Changes.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, commander in chief of the battleship fleet, sailed from Magdalena Bay, Mexico, for San Diego, Cal., on his flagship, the Connecticut, yesterday morning at daybreak, according to a despatch received at the Navy Department to-day. He is expected to arrive at San Diego in two or three days. He is going to rejoin the fleet at San Diego about the middle of April. During his absence the fleet will be in command of Rear Admiral Charles M. Thomas. Admiral Evans is going to the springs at Paso Robles for treatment for rheumatism.

The battleships Maine and Alabama will be detached from the fleet before it leaves San Francisco Bay on its long cruise around the world. Their places will be taken by the battleships Wisconsin and Nebraska. The Alabama has been in commission continuously since 1901 and the Maine since 1902, and after docking and repairing they will return to the Atlantic coast by way of the Straits of Magellan. This repair work will probably not be undertaken until the ships of the fleet have been docked for their long trip. The Maine and Alabama will probably not start from San Francisco for the Atlantic coast until the middle of the summer.

DR. FLOWER STILL AT LARGE.

Alleged Swindler Fails to Appear in Philadelphia Court and Forfeits \$5,000 Bail.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—Dr. R. C. Flower, the alleged swindler, who was to have been turned over to the New York police to-day, failed to appear in Judge McMichael's court.

In accordance with instructions the court clerk called for the deliverance of R. C. Flower's body by the Title Guarantee and Surety Company of Scranton, Pa., under a bail bond of \$5,000.

An attorney representing the surety company asked the Court to postpone action until to-morrow. "We understand," said the attorney, "that Flower is in custody at Reading, Pa."

"That report has reached us and has been investigated," replied District Attorney Peterson. "He was in jail at Reading, but was released under bond."

The security company's lawyer pressed for a postponement, but Judge McMichael closed the argument by ordering the bail forfeited.

Dr. Flower was released from jail at Reading under \$10,000 bail. This also has been declared forfeited.

The police to-night again resumed their efforts to find Flower.

FIRST BLOOD FOR MORSE.

Petition in Bankruptcy Against Him Dismissed on His Demurrer.

Judge Holt of the United States District Court has sustained the demurrer of Charles W. Morse to the petition in bankruptcy filed against him on March 13, but gives leave to the petitioners to amend the petition within ten days on payment of costs.

Mr. Morse contended that the petitioning creditors, Charles W. Hanna, receiver of the National Bank of North America; Frank C. Pringle and Edward D. Shotwell, have no provable claims, and that he never by any representation whatever induced Messrs. Pringle and Shotwell to purchase stock of the National Bank of North America and never sold the stock to them. Judge Holt in his decision says:

"The statement of the claims of the petitioners, Pringle and Shotwell, in the petition leaves it doubtful whether the purchase of the stock in respect to which it is alleged that Morse made fraudulent representations was from him or from some other party. If the stock was purchased from Morse I think the claims would be provable under the doctrine of a liability on an implied contract, but if from some third party the only ground of action against Morse would be for damages for fraud and deceit, which would be not provable in bankruptcy. I think the other points urged are not tenable. My conclusion is that the demurrer should be sustained, with leave to amend the petition within ten days on payment of costs."

SENATOR JEFF GETS A BEATING

OUTRAGED ASSAILANT AFTER RECEIVING TWO PUNCHES.

Flourishes Big Revolver and Issues Manifesto After Surgeon Had Fixed Up His Head—Says It Was Assassination Plot of His Arkansas Enemies.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 31.—Senator Jeff Davis and T. E. Helm, deputy Prosecuting Attorney for this district, were the principals in a sensational street fight this afternoon.

Sensor Davis was walking west on Second street and had turned the corner near Louisiana street to go to his office in the Reigler Building when he encountered Mr. Helm.

Helm says that when he met Davis the Senator made an insulting personal remark to him, and he resented it with a blow of his fist.

Helm says he thinks he struck Davis only twice with his fist, but does not know whether he struck him with the cane which the Senator dropped in his flight.

Davis ran toward his office and Helm followed about half way, but could not overtake him. Helm then went to his office in the Southern Trust Building, carrying the Senator's cane.

Davis went to his office and in a few minutes emerged with a big pistol, which he flourished. He went to the street corner at the People's Bank, where he again flourished the weapon, gesticulated wildly and with oaths and vile epithets declared that he would "like to get a shot at him."

Mr. Helm said he met Senator Davis in Louisiana street, and after a word or two had passed he struck Senator Davis with his fist.

"Senator Davis then turned and ran," said Mr. Helm when telling of the affray to some of his friends, "and I followed, picking up his cane. I don't think I hit him with it, but I know I struck him back with my fist. I will send the cane back to him. I don't know yet what I will do further in the matter. I don't know anything of his getting a gun, and I did not run away from him."

The cane captured by Mr. Helm is the gold headed stick which was presented to the Senator by admiring friends of Springfield on January 1, 1908.

Sensor Davis's head and face were covered with blood, but he was able to return to his office after his wounds had been dressed by Dr. Runyan. Mr. Helm did not receive a blow.

The trouble was caused by Senator Davis denouncing Helm on every stump during the recent campaign. He charged Helm with being the beneficiary of several robberies committed in this city, and said that Helm and Prosecuting Attorney Rhoton assisted the criminals in making their escape. Both Davis and Helm will be in the police court to-morrow.

Sensor Davis late this afternoon gave out the following statement: "To my friends throughout Arkansas: There was a coldblooded, cowardly effort to assassinate me to-day by the prosecuting attorney of this county. I left my office at 11:45 A. M. and went to Al Chon's gentleman's furnishing goods store. Coming back I crossed to the cigar stand at Baltheimer Bros. on Second street. I noticed Tom Helm standing there talking to a gentleman whom I do not know."

"I passed almost by him when Helm struck me with a loaded 'bat' near the temple, dazing me and causing me to drop my walking cane, which rolled about ten feet down the street. He struck at me a second time, which knocked my hat off, but did not injure me. I ran to my office in the Reigler Building, got my Navy six and returning I saw Helm running like a coward with my stick in his hand, near the Southern Trust Building."

"This was a cowardly, unprovoked effort at assassination, instigated no doubt by his boss Rhoton. I was not seriously hurt, but it was no fault of Helm's, as he used a loaded 'bat' covered with leather eight inches long, with a large loaded end and a strap over his wrist."

"It is stated on the streets that Helm took from me my cane and hit me with it. This is an unmitigated lie. When I got back with my gun I saw him running toward his office with my cane in his hand."

"It was an unwarranted attack, instigated by Rhoton and applauded by this bunch of grafters here that I have been fighting for years."

"This is the bunch of bootleggers and grafters in Little Rock that I have told you would commit murder, thievery, arson, assassination or any other crime to accomplish their point. I have made a game fight in this last campaign. They may yet assassinate me, but if they do there will be others to take my place."

"This is the first time that the grafters and bootleggers have had a victory and they are so intoxicated with their success that they would commit murder if necessary to perpetuate their reign. They dread Jeff Davis before the people and therefore they would kill him."

JEFF DAVIS.

CHLOROFORMED THE LANDLADY

And Passed Up Rich Old Purse in Favor of \$17.50 in New One.

Two men who got into the boarding house of Mrs. Mary J. Sully, 132 West Thirty-sixth street, three doors from Broadway, yesterday afternoon, knocked Mrs. Sully down, chloroformed her and got away with a purse containing \$17.50.

Mrs. Sully opened her front door to answer to a ring about 6 o'clock. Two men dressed, dandy hatted young men, one in light overcoat, one in dark, wanted a "big room on the ground floor." Mrs. Sully ushered them in, leaving the key on the inside of the door. The men followed her and locked the door. Then one hit her in the face and both choked off her wind and held her by her nose a handkerchief soaked with chloroform.

James Rush, a boarder, heard Mrs. Sully scream and banged at the door. The robbers jumped through the rear windows and scaled the back fence, with Rush after them yelling for the police.

In their hurry they left on the floor a shabby purse of Mrs. Sully's containing \$200 and about \$300 worth of jewelry and took only an ornate pocketbook containing \$17.50.

The police, tagged by a crowd, hustled in from Broadway and found the woman unconscious on the floor. She will recover.

CROSSLER MONTANA READY FOR TRIAL.

Rockland, Me., March 31.—The armored cruiser Montana arrived to-day for her official acceptance trials.

The Montana is a sister ship of the North Carolina and both were built by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company. She is required to develop twenty-two knots.

BIG ENGLISH SURPLUS.

Financial Year Shows the Treasury \$23,000,000 to the Good.

Special Cable Dispatch to Tax Sun. LONDON, March 31.—The revenue returns show that the financial year closed with a realized surplus of \$23,027,990 on an expenditure of \$759,000,461.

GETS THE AMEN CORNER SEATS.

The Corporation Will Decide on a Place to Preserve Them.

The Fifth Avenue Hotel proprietors, Vilas and Darling, turned over yesterday afternoon to the Amen Corner Corporation the four plush seats which have been in the Amen Corners of the hotel for the last twenty-five years. The Amen Corner brethren staked these "Seats of the Mighty" and will at the annual meeting on Monday determine their future destination, that is, the spot where the future dinners of the Amens are to be held. There isn't a President for forty years, a Governor of any great State, a notable United States Senator, a distinguished foreign Ambassador, or a renowned American diplomat, as well as the great men in the great professions, who have not occupied these four Amen Corner seats. They are now the property of the Amen Corner Corporation and will be marked by suitable tablets.

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S TRIP.

President's Wife and Party in New Orleans to Stay Till Saturday.

NEW ORLEANS, March 31.—The yacht Mayflower arrived here this afternoon with